

TONY GONZALES  
23RD DISTRICT, TEXAS

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-4323

March 31, 2023

Chairwoman Kay Granger  
House Appropriations Committee  
2308 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C., 20515

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro  
House Appropriations Committee  
2413 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Jeff Davis Community Center Project for Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Jeff Davis, located at 100 Court Avenue, Fort Davis, Texas, 79734.

The funding would be used to develop a community center in Jeff Davis County, Texas. Jeff Davis County has recently acquired a 10,000-square-foot former mercantile building for use as a community center. Services provided would include community activities, emergency shelter, and eventually a senior center for the county's aging population. Based on a Feasibility Study conducted by Rhotenberry, Wellen Architects, the cost to renovate the public spaces, provide a commercial kitchen, adequate restrooms, and make the space full ADA accessible, is \$1,346,800. Without adequate financial resources it may take several years to achieve these goals if the County is forced to phase in projects as funding becomes available. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because there is substantial need to provide services to the senior citizens of Jeff Davis County. Broken down by the age of the population, Jeff Davis County, Texas is demographically the sixth oldest county in the country. The ability to provide care and services to the county's senior citizens is limited by the lack of financial means and the scarcity of resources that could potentially provide the support needed to maintain their independence. Local governments find it difficult to raise taxes to provide more services because of the poverty in the county.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 530(a)(2) of the Community Development Block Grant Program, 42 U.S.C.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress